

Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief Ronal W. Serpas



Captain Glenn Cramer
Government and Media Relations
(360) 753-5299 – office
(360) 753-5469 – fax
<http://www.wa.gov/wsp/wsphome.htm>

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Contact: Lt. Rich Wiley
(360) 753-0304

WSP to Host Open House of Weighing Facilities

Chief Ronal Serpas announced today that the Washington State Patrol will be having an open house for three of their newly equipped weighing facilities. These facilities are now equipped with Weigh in Motion/Commercial Vehicle Inspection Information Systems & Networks (WIM/CVISN).

In April 2002, 458,000 commercial vehicles passed through our WIM/CVISN sites—169,000 of these trucks were able to bypass the scales, thanks to this technology. In the last year, an average of 75% of all commercial vehicles with transponders were allowed to bypass the scales versus just 35% of the non-transponder commercial vehicles. A transponder is a device located in the cab of a commercial vehicle that emits a signal that identifies a vehicle. This activates a check of the vehicle's records, including permits, weights, and safety information. If it is determined to be a safe and legal vehicle, a signal will be sent back to the transponder, giving the driver a green light to bypass the scale.

A Washington State Department of Transportation (DOT) study estimated the average truck spends 5 minutes when asked to report to a scale facility (this does not include inspections). The national cost average of an idling truck is one dollar a minute. CVISN bypassed 234,479 trucks in 2001, for an estimated savings of \$1,172,395; WIM bypassed 1,288,926 in 2001, for an estimated savings of \$6,444,630—resulting in a total savings of \$7,617,025.

The WSP, DOT, and the Washington Trucking Association (WTA) can all take pride in these accomplishments. "It's because of our close working relationship and the industry's shared concern for safety that these results are possible," stated Chief Serpas.

The open house at the three weighing facilities are:

- Nisqually Scale
June 18, 2002, at 10 a.m.
Northbound, I-5 at milepost 118
- Stanwood/Bryant Port of Entry
June 18, 2002, at 2:30 p.m.
Northbound, I-5 at milepost 212
- Cle Elum Port of Entry
June 20, 2002, at 2:30 p.m.
Westbound, I-90 at milepost 80

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